

Subj: Re: Stock Alarms
Date: 4:36:01 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Ira_Biz
To: MarkDeNye, ChukMcMath, CPerkins4, ScottQuill
CC: DonnerMrk
Sent on: AOL for Macintosh(0c11) sub 54

Hi Marky-

>>- In the "Stock Alarm" window, the "Notify me when:" group has the label
>>"by:." Does that mean that it can only have relative values (I think it
>>should support relative and absolute values)? Also, can fractions of dollars
>>and percents be entered (I think they should be allowed)?
>

>It's absolute or relative depending on the popup. For Price Above or Below,
>the label hides since the edit field is absolute at this point. I wasn't
>planning on allowing fractions, but I suppose it wouldn't be that hard
>to do that. And percentages can be entered (assuming you've chosen "Percent"
>from the popup on the right)

It's nit-picky, but having the "by:" label hide seems non-standard to me. Why not append "by" to the menu items which are for relative values, and then not have any label there?

>The way this all works isn't great I admit, and I've already thrown out
>some other ideas. Having radio buttons for all choices (11 in all) would
>make the dialog huge and pretty tacky.
>
>

>>- In the "Notify me by:" group, maybe there should be an option to use
>>the Notification Mgr. (in case users have it running in the background
>>and aren't always at their desk or are hearing impaired). This whole group
>>could be a little less verbose—it could be called "Notification" and
>then
>>the options would be "Open alarm window," "Speak text:," "Play sound:,"
>>and "Run script:."
>

>For notification manager, what would it do, just blink the icon and that's
>it - no window? Or are you suggesting a new checkbox for the blinky? If
>so, does it only blink if AIM is in the background? If AIM is fg, they
>might not get any indication and that would be bad (one of the reasons
>why we blink the "IM" even in the fg). And if it blinks in the fg, what
>"action" shuts it off? Or is the blinky tied to the alarm window?

I was thinking it would only blink the icon, and only be if AIM is in the background. Now that I think about it some more, if the user chooses the existing "window" notification option, as long as that supports NM in the std. way (only blink if AIM is in the background), that's probably good enough.

>>- Is this feature (or stock ticker in general) going to be localizable?
>>Will it or does it support foreign exchanges? How would the "Dollars/Units"
>>menu item be localized?
>
>Right now the host only supports US exchanges. If/when we support other
>exchanges, the "Dollars/Units" is easy, because internally we just use the
>raw value to compare against the stock "price" so the label probably gets

>nice and generic (like Units or something vague). I don't think we'll be
>providing currency conversions in AIM :)

If we start supporting foreign exchanges and the symbols from the various exchanges use their native currency, then I think having "dollars" in the popup will confuse the situation. If/when that happens, maybe we will want it to say "Units" only.

>>- In the tripped alarm window, maybe there should be "Reset" and "Remove"
>>buttons, or when the user closes the window an alert could ask whether
>>to "Reset," "Remove," or "Cancel," or maybe there should be an option
>in
>>the Add/Edit window for an alarm to automatically reset or remove itself
>>after it has been tripped.

>
>I had buttons originally but people didn't like it, it made the alarm
window "busy", and it also adds more complexity to these alarms (someone
>suggested a "snooze" feature). Asking what you want to do with the alarm
>on closing the window is possibility.

>
>>- Is there an option to have Stock Alarms without having to view the stock
>>ticker?

>
>Right now, nopers. I have added the choice of putting the stock ticker
>in a separe window, so if you don't want to watch the ticker scroll/flip
>by, you can just close that window, and the alarms will still work.

That's good enough for me. :)

>>- Is there a way to add/edit alarms via scripting? A user might want to
>>have an alarm go off when Acme reaches 100, and when that happens have
>>it automatically edit the alarm to go off when it reaches 110, etc.

>
>Right now the scripting stuff is undefined, but what you suggest sounds
>pretty cool.

Thanks,
Ira :)